

That is because it respects a cherished American value, freedom of conscience regarding our deepest religious beliefs. Now, that freedom is under attack by radicals running this country. Their assault on the Hyde amendment threatens to undo this important protection for the lives of millions and the consciences of millions more.

That is why we need H.R. 18, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DeGETTE). Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

NO TIME TO WASTE ON INFRASTRUCTURE

(Ms. WILD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WILD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about the INVEST in America Act, an important moment in the fight to upgrade our national infrastructure.

I am so glad to see the House take a critical step toward fulfilling many of the key priorities laid out in the American Jobs Plan by passing this bill.

I want to be really frank. There is no time to waste on this. We urgently need to fix the roads, bridges, tunnels, and drainage systems that we see crumbling around the country.

Not only does the INVEST Act address some of the key infrastructure needs of our country, but it also creates good-paying, middle-class jobs that will turbocharge economic growth.

The INVEST Act also includes \$20 million in key infrastructure investments for my district, Pennsylvania's Seventh, that will support our economy and make roads safer for both motorists and pedestrians. I am proud to have secured this funding for my community.

We have more work to do to get an infrastructure package finalized, sent to the President's desk, and signed into law. Our country simply cannot wait any longer, but I am proud to support the INVEST Act and to get us one step closer to that goal.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 18, NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT

(Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Fifty million, Madam Speaker. The WHO estimates that 50 million abortions are performed each year. It is a soul-rending number.

Of course, abortion is a deeply divisive legal, political, and moral dispute, but despite that fact, for 45 years, this body has been able to come together to accept the powerful message of the Hyde amendment, that taxpayer funding should never be used for abortion.

When I think about what we can do together, that is a powerful message. It is in that spirit that I ask unanimous consent that the relevant committees be discharged from any further consideration of H.R. 18, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, and I ask for its immediate consideration by this House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair has previously advised, the request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

BOLD ACTION ON CLIMATE CRISIS

(Ms. BONAMICI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, 1 year ago today, I joined my colleagues on the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis and we released our bold, comprehensive, science-based climate action plan. Our plan is a roadmap for solving the climate crisis, and I am thrilled that we are advancing many of its provisions this week as part of the INVEST in America Act.

The transportation sector is the largest source of energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in the country, and the pollution disproportionately affects low-income communities and communities of color. We must take bold action to mitigate the climate crisis, and that includes advancing the INVEST in America Act.

This bill would help decarbonize our transportation sector by investing in electric vehicle charging infrastructure, zero-emission buses, and transit. It will increase the resilience of our communities by strengthening predisaster mitigation efforts, supporting the use of natural infrastructure, and restoring fish passages. And importantly, this bill also invests in the people who will rebuild our Nation's infrastructure.

By passing the INVEST in America Act, we can protect our planet, create good-paying jobs, and truly begin to build back better. I thank Chairs CASTOR, DEFAZIO, and PALLONE for their leadership.

SKYROCKETING VIOLENT CRIME

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, in large cities across America, violent crime rates are skyrocketing. At the same time, many of our Democrat col-

leagues are leading dangerous calls to defund the police and take cops off the streets.

I can't believe this needs to be said, but demonizing law enforcement will not make our streets safer. This kind of rhetoric makes it more difficult for police officers to do their jobs and harder for local departments to attract new officers.

Just look at the cities which are experiencing the largest spikes in violent crime. Homicides are up 533 percent in Portland, 58 percent in Atlanta, 37 percent in Philadelphia, and 22 percent in Los Angeles. Each of these cities has embraced the same antipolice rhetoric that we have heard from Democrats in this very Chamber. Now, in a bizarre twist of logic, Democrats are trying to shift the blame to Republicans.

The only way to solve this problem is to reestablish respect for law enforcement and make sure they have the support and resources needed to protect themselves and our communities.

TIME TO STEP UP

(Mr. CARTWRIGHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I am thrilled that, this week, we bring up the INVEST in America Act, part of Joe Biden's American Jobs Plan, something that we have been waiting for for many years.

We have had infrastructure week after infrastructure week. We actually have a real one this week because we will be voting on the INVEST in America Act, something that will invest \$700 billion into America's roads, bridges, tunnels, rail systems, water systems, and sewer systems, things that the Greatest Generation handed down to us. They came back from World War II after all the suffering and all the losses, and they sucked it up and actually contributed more.

All of these investments in American infrastructure that happened after World War II, we have been disinvesting in those things. It is time for us to step up to the plate and invest in America with the INVEST in America Act.

Let's get it done, and let's do it on a bipartisan basis. We all need to invest in our great Nation.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 18, NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, H.R. 18 must be immediately brought to the House floor for a vote.

The No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act would make the Hyde amendment and other current abortion funding prohibitions permanent and governmentwide.

The Hyde amendment was passed in 1976 and has shared bipartisan support for over four decades, while saving at least 2.4 million lives. But, now, my Democrat colleagues want to break with precedent and pave the way for taxpayer-funded abortions.

This is wrong. It is in direct opposition to God's word and the will of the American people.

Psalm 139:13 is clear: "For You formed my inward parts; You knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

Polling shows that 60 percent of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair has previously advised, the request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

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NOW IS THE TIME TO INVEST IN AMERICA

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the INVEST in America Act.

This bill makes long overdue investments in the Nation building here at home and would deliver for my community in Buffalo and western New York.

It includes funding to convert the historic DL&W train station into a multiuse transportation hub. It supports the transition of a North Tonawanda highway near the Erie Canal into a walkable neighborhood. And it will transform an abandoned rail line in Buffalo into the vibrant Riverline trail.

The INVEST in America Act will add more than \$400 million in annual funding to New York to fix bridges and roads, an increase of over 30 percent.

This bill does not, however, fix neighborhoods destroyed by highway building in the decade of the 1950s. We need to do more to restore those communities in those neighborhoods that were destroyed many years ago.

Now is the time to invest in America.

IMMEDIATE ACTION MUST BE TAKEN TO PROTECT AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE AGAINST OUR ADVERSARIES

(Mr. STEIL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, bolstering our infrastructure against cyberattacks and ransomware attacks

is an issue that concerns every American. It is not Republican or Democrat, liberal or conservative.

As we have seen from the recent Colonial Pipeline hack and the shutdown of the world's largest beef supplier, JBS, there are alarming cybersecurity weaknesses in America's critical infrastructure.

Immediate action must be taken to protect America's infrastructure against our adversaries. That is why we must pass my amendment to the surface transportation bill.

My proposal is simple. It is focused. It does not grow the size of the Federal Government.

My amendment requires the GAO, the Government Accountability Office, to study the vulnerabilities within our transportation system to combat cyberattacks.

This study will show us and accurately allow us to plan, invest, and put forth policies that address our susceptibilities to future threats.

I thank my colleagues from Massachusetts and Pennsylvania for joining me in this effort, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this amendment.

AMERICANS DESERVE BETTER

(Mrs. DINGELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, this past weekend and early this week, the people of Michigan's southeast area in the Twelfth District have experienced devastating floods. More than 7 inches fell on my hometown of Dearborn in a few hours.

But it is not new for Michiganians. We keep experiencing these once-in-a-lifetime storms every year. But that doesn't make it any different when your basements are flooded, family photos are ruined, carpets are soaked, cars can't operate, water is not running, and the power is out.

We have to do something. Our Nation's infrastructure is crumbling, and the American people deserve better.

We need to invest in our infrastructure to make communities more resilient to the impacts of the climate crisis.

On Saturday, I sent a letter to the President urging immediate FEMA assistance to our communities. I have asked the Army Corps of Engineers to begin a study to tell us what we have to do.

My constituents are dealing with so much damage and are in immediate need of essential resources. We are focused on doing everything we can to coordinate with all to help our communities. We just wish we could send the West some of our water.

WE ARE FOREVER INDEBTED TO OUR VETERANS

(Mr. BOST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the men and women who have proudly safeguarded the American way of life since 1776.

Generations of veterans have protected our homeland and its principles against all enemies.

These everyday American heroes are willing to give their lives to ensure a better tomorrow for our children and grandchildren.

We are forever indebted to them.

To the over 19 million veterans and 1.5 million Active Duty service personnel who hail from every corner of our Nation, we say thank you.

To the military families whose loved ones took their last breath in defense of tyranny, we will never forget the sacrifices.

This Independence Day, I will be thanking them, and I hope you will be as well.

May God continue to bless this great United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTH CAROLINA SWEET POTATO COMMISSION

(Mr. BUTTERFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of the North Carolina Sweet Potato Commission.

The role of this commission is to support growers and increase sweet potato consumption. Their efforts have been tremendously effective as the popularity of sweet potatoes has increased at home and especially abroad.

North Carolina leads the Nation in sweet potato production and has done so for the last 50 years. There are over 450 sweet potato farmers in North Carolina, and those farmers produce about 65 percent of all sweet potatoes grown throughout the country.

I am proud to recognize and congratulate the North Carolina Sweet Potato Commission on its 60th anniversary. I wish them another 60 years of continued success.

MEETING WITH PRESIDENT REUVEN RIVLIN

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on Monday, I appreciate meeting with Israeli President Reuven Rivlin at the U.S. Capitol. We are always grateful for the opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to Israel.

Recently, Hamas terrorists in Gaza launched 4,500 Iranian-produced rockets against Israeli families. America should always stand with our allies. The world is impressed by Israel as she defends herself with the Iron Dome.

It is encouraging to see the successes of Iron Dome intercepting rockets